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SUBJECT: SITREP ~~16000~~ 1600 EDT September 6, 1969

1. Diplomatic Recognition: The Department of State press spokesman at 1300 hours today, announced USG intentions to maintain diplomatic relations with the new regime in Libya, a few hours after the U.K. and France made similar announcements. Our ~~Chrge~~ Chargé in Libya has informed RCC authorities of this. Tripoli radio September 6 announced recognition by Italy, Jordan, Poland,

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Czechoslovakia, and North Vietnam. President Nasser has expressed unequivocal support for the Libyan revolution.

2. Internal Situation - Our Embassy reports that the RCC continues to restore normalcy to the commercial and economic sectors. Our Chargé has reassured American community leaders that American lives and property are not in danger.

3. Identity and Nature of the RCC: Authoritative UAR spokesman Haykal, returning from a 36 hour trip to Libya, reported that the main group of the Libyan Revolutionary Command Council, including its president, are between 20 and 30 years of age. Haykal stated that the only publicly announced RCC member (Abu Shuwarib) is not its leader. Haykal claimed no Arab government or political group can claim prior knowledge of the coup plans. Tripoli radio has reported the RCC will shortly announce a new government council to administer Libya.

4. King Idris' plans: The King has reportedly announced his intention to return to Libya and to "live and die there as an ordinary citizen". "I never want bloodshed among Libyan brothers."

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